

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2009***

Present: Chairman Wes Moore, Michael Woodworth, and Rosanne Gilbert. Others present included: Chief Reed, Kelley Corson, Natalie Fream, Michael DiCroce, Mark Goodrich, Sheila Lane, Peter McNulty, Perry Silverstein, Kristin Silverstein, Lorrie Maker, Ken Maker, and Michael Price.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Chief Reed gave an update on the Hazardous Mitigation Plan. The Public Hearing to accept the Plan is Tuesday, March 31st, 2009 at the Town Hall.

The FEMA check was received reimbursing the Town a portion of the costs related to the December 2008 ice storm.

The Chief and Lt. Gould attended a meeting related to the economic stimulus plan. The Town can ask for money to add an additional police officer. The grant would pay the wages and benefits (but not training or equipment costs) for three years. The Town would have to keep the officer for a fourth year paying all costs as part of the grant. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Kelley Corson and Natalie Fream updated the Selectmen on the progress of Main Street Art. Their attorney will go ahead and work on the lease agreement and will address the concerns of the Town Counsel. They were reminded that Planning Board approval is required to use the building. Kelley has a copy of the letter she sent to the New Hampshire Transportation Director asking for a new sidewalk between the library and the old post office building. She will give a copy to the Planning Board as they requested. Wes will remain the main contact with the group.

Kelley reported that the deed contains an easement to allow a road/driveway to allow access to the rear of the building. Kelley is still researching this to see if it is viable. She also mentioned that the rear of the property is quite a mess – most of it is tree damage.

The group does not have 501 status at this point, but are working on it.

Michael Woodworth agreed to continue as the Selectmen's Representative to the Planning Board.

Austin Webber of Flynn's Oil did not attend the meeting as scheduled. He was to discuss the recent oil spill at the town office as a result of the tank being overfilled.

A group of Halls Mill Road residents met with the Selectmen to express their displeasure at the shooting taking place which disturbs the quiet nature of their area and the health affects of the noise of the gunfire.

Wes stated that the Board would not render a decision tonight, but merely gather information. Rosanne recused herself from the discussion as she is a resident of Halls Mill Road. The town attorney also recused himself for the same reason.

Lorrie Maker stated that she complained to the police department several times last fall about the shooting and was told there were no grounds to ask for the shooting to stop. Lorrie feels there are several people shooting multiple weapons for more than an hour. Kristen Silverstein feels that the gunfire lasted 2 to 3 hours and that it scares and causes hearing problems with her young child.

Ken Maker feels the shooting is in violation of handgun laws and ordinances and doesn't understand why it can't be stopped – it is toxic and in his backyard. Mark Goodrich, the Makers, Michael Price, and the Silversteins all object to the noise from the guns.

Chief Reed looked at the shooting area last fall and a couple of weeks ago. Trees and planking are being used as a berm.

No crime is being committed according to Chief Reed, the town attorney, the town prosecutor, and the town planner.

There was also a complaint about the four wheeler track on the property which residents say is used day and night.

Rosanne has spoken with the property owners and feels they are very nice people and neighbors. She said the neighbors need to work in a friendly way instead of a confrontational manner.

Wes will go to Halls Mill Road when there is shooting to hear for himself how loud it is. Michael said he could hear the shooting at his own home. The Selectmen ended this portion of the meeting at 8:21pm and will discuss the matter with a lawyer.

Last summer the Selectmen made two additional appointments to the Planning Board, but required the Planning Board to place a warrant on the 2009 ballot to make clear the number of Planning Board members. This did not happen. John Hayden, Chairman and Bill Meserve (former Chairman) will be asked to meet with the Selectmen to discuss this.

At 8:28pm the meeting went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 III. The meeting returned to a public session at 9:13pm.

The following items are to be added to next week's agenda:

Clay Mitchell's report to the Selectmen

minutes of the March 3, 2009 Selectmen's Meeting
6 Abatements
MS-2
re-appointment to Conservation Commission
Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed
Timber Tax Levy
Warrant Article 4 and lower level of 75 Main Street
Comcast
NH DES Notice of Violation – Newfields Water and Sewer
Primex April Programs

Michael Woodworth made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14pm. The motion was seconded by Wes. The motion passed with both in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant